

Cloudy tap water a cause for concern?

Cold temperatures and pressurized pipes create harmless air bubbles in tap water 2/11/2021

Have you ever poured a glass of water from the tap and noticed a cloudy or milky appearance, only to discover the water clears up after a few seconds? This is generally not a cause for concern, but rather a very common occurrence. The cloudy water is actually air bubbles, which over time, will rise and release back into the air leaving the water clear again.



Cold winter temperatures can also contribute to cloudy water, because cold water holds more air than warm water. Also, pressurized water in the distribution system traps air in the pipes. Once this water flows from the tap, the air is released as bubbles. It's best to allow the water to sit in an open container until the bubbles naturally disappear. You can learn more about this topic at the <u>United States Geological Survey Water Science Q & As page</u>. Should you have water quality concerns, however, please email waterquality@flagstaff.az.gov.

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